as a national project; if so, what are the details thereof; and at what stage the consideration is pending?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): The Polavaram Project which envisages ultimate potential of more than one lakh hectares and also having inter-state aspects fulfil the criteria evolved by Central Water Commission for its inclusion as one of the projects of national importance. The Ministry's proposals to take up the scheme for providing special central assistance to national projects for expeditious completion during the VIII Plan has not been accepted by the Planning Commission.

राज्यों में सिंचाई दर

1599. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव :** क्या **जल संसाधन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि विभिन्न राज्यों में सिंचाई की दर भिन्न-भिन्न हैं;

(ख) सिंचाई दरों में समानता लाने के लिये सरकार ने अब तक क्या प्रयास किये हैं; और

(ग) उनका क्या परिणाम निकला है ?

जल संसाधन मंत्री (श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) और (ग) राज्य सरकारों द्वारा जल दरें वसूल की जाती हैं और ये परियोजना-दर-परियोजना तथा फसलों और मौसमों में भिन्न भिन्न होती हैं। सितम्बर, 1987 में राष्ट्रीय जल संसाधन परिषद द्वारा अपनायी गई राष्ट्रीय जल नीति में, अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ यह सिफारिश की गई है कि जल दरें ऐसी होनी चाहिए कि प्रयोगकर्ताओं को संसाधन के अभाव का अनुभव हो सके और उन्हें जल के उपयोग में किफायत करने के वास्ते प्रेरित किया जा सके । ये दरें वार्षिक अनुरक्षण तथा संचालन प्रभारों और निश्चित लागतों के एक हिस्से को कवर करने में पर्याप्त होनी चाहिए । सिंचाई जल के सुनिश्चित तथा समय पर आपूर्तियां सुनिश्चित करते समय इसे काफी अवधि तक सर्वांगपूर्ण बनाने के प्रयास किए जाने चाहिए । सतही जल तथा भूजल की जल दरें लघु तथा सीमान्त कृषकों के हितों को ध्यान में रखते हुए, युक्तियुक्त बनायी जानी चाहिएं । इसकी वसूलियों और अन्य संबंधित मुद्दों में सुधार करने के लिए मूल्य संरचना तथा रूपात्मकताओं के विद्यमान तंत्र की जांच करने हेतु योजना आयोग ने अक्तूबर, 1991 में सिंचाई जल की लागत पर एक समिति गठित की है । और इसे अपनी रिपोर्ट जुलाई, 1992 के अन्त तक प्रस्तुत करनी है ।

National Water Development agency

1600. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Water Development agency has assessed the possible annual surplus water available from harnessing the major inter-State and international rivers of the country;

(b) if so, what would be the quantum of surplus water and how much hectares of land which can be benefited with that surplus water;

(c) the hectares of land which can be irrigated with the surplus waters of Achankovil basin of Kerala and odavari basin of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the steps have been taken by Government to use surplus waters in the drought prone States?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) In the National perspective additional water that can be utilised through inter-basin transfer was estimated as 22 million hectare-metres to benefit 35 million hectares of land. The studies undertaken by National Water

Development Agency are scheduled for completion in the VIII Plan after which these figures can be firmed up.

(c) The Preliminary feasibility studies for Pamba-Achankovil-Vaigai link indicate that irrigation of one lakh hectares of land is possible apart from meeting drinking water requirement in the drought prone areas of Tamil Nadu.

From the Mahanadi—Godavari and Godavari—Krishna links, the following benefits are anticipated :

(i) Annual irrigation of about 3.5 lakh hectares in Manibhadra command in the districts of Puri, Cuttack, Phulbani and Ganjam of Orissa.

(ii) Annual irrigation of 1.05 lakh hectares in Srikakulam and Visakhapathnam districts of Andhra Pradesh.

(iii) Annual irrigation of 2.23 lakh hectares in West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh.

(iv) Annual irrigation of 1.18 lakh hectares in Nagarjuna Sagar Command in West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh.

(v) Annual irrigation of 3.20 lakh hectares in Warangal and Nalgonda districts of Andhra Pradesh.

The details of benefits in drought prone areas of Rayalalaseema and water short basins of Pennar, Cauvery and Vaigai will be known after the feasibility of remaining components of links between Krishna—Pennar—Cauvery—Vaigai are completed during the VIII Five Year Plan.

(d) The National perspective plan for water resources development prepared by the Government envisages inter linkages between the major rivers of the penisular region and between the Himalayan rivers separately for transfer of water from water rich to water short areas. The National Water Development Agency has been entrusted with the task of conducting studies and preparing feasibility report for optimum utilisation of available waters.

Distribution of Yamuna river water

1601. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had recently called a meeting of authorities associated with the Development, management and distribution of the Yamuna river water ;

(b) if so, the issues discussed thereat ;

(c) whether disputes on sharing of river water surfaced amongst Yamuna basin States ;

(d) if so, the nature of these disputes ; and

(e) the progress made in resolving the same ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) to (e) In the inter-State meeting on sharing of Yamuna waters and other related issues held on 28-3-1992, draft agreements on construction of Renuka Dam, construction of additional parallel channel for Delhi, allocation of remaining water for drinking water supply to Basin States and construction of Hathnikund Barrage wre *inter-alia* considered. All the States expressed their agreement on the construction of Renuka dam and the additional parallel channel for Delhi. It was also decided that the details of the agreements concerning allocation of remaining Yamuna Waters for drinking water supply to Basin States and construction of Hathnikund Barrage will be further considered in the next inter-State meeting and agreements on all these four issues signed. All the Basin States agreed in principle on the construction of Kishau dam and decided to consider it further in the next meeting. The States also agreed on the setting up of a Yamuna River Board for the coordinated development and management of river Yamuna. Details of the set up of this Board will be discussed in the next meeting.

Sharing of river waters with Nepal

1602. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have signed any agreement or Memorandum of Under-